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Sen. Cassis supports agenda that is ‘Working Today For Michigan’s Tomorrow’

Lansing – State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) said she is looking forward to working on the Senate Republican’s 2004 agenda, titled “Working Today for Michigan’s Tomorrow.”

The bold legislative agenda focuses on creating jobs, strengthening families and continuing to improve the quality of Michigan schools while also bringing state spending in line with existing revenues.

“This is a bold and proactive caucus agenda, one based on Michigan’s priorities,” said Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, R-Wyoming. “This agenda makes it clear that Senate Republicans are going to work for what’s best for Michigan’s families, not what’s easiest for state government.”

“Our priorities are Michigan’s priorities,” Cassis said. “Michigan residents deserve and demand a strong economy, good jobs, quality educational opportunities, affordable health care, and a clean environment.”

Senator Cassis has spearheaded many initiatives in support of the 2004 Senate Republican Caucus Agenda, which includes:

- Improving Michigan’s competitiveness, leading to a healthier economy and more job opportunities (Sen. Cassis continues to work hard for the reconstruction of the I-96/Wixom Road interchange, which is critical to creating jobs and growing our economy);

(More)

- Protecting families from health threats, criminal predators and unfair financial burdens (Sen. Cassis has introduced Senate Bill 795 to protect people from unauthorized disclosure of their Social Security Number);
- Educating youth by stretching education dollars, promoting reform and accountability and ensuring Michigan's children get the best education (Sen. Cassis has sponsored SB 307, which would require Michigan school districts, ISDs and public school academies to adopt a parental involvement plan);
- Preserving Michigan's beauty through common sense land-use regulations, promoting recycling and limiting out-of-state trash (Sen. Cassis has authored SB 502, a bill that prohibits out-of-state trash from entering the state unless the place of origin has the same stringent waste standards as Michigan); and
- Building a healthy Michigan – in terms of residents and our economy – by lowering healthcare costs while increasing accessibility, reducing state spending, and continuing Senate oversight of government activities (Sen. Cassis sponsored SB 672, now PA 240, which reduces the taxes paid by employers on healthcare benefits under the state's Single Business Tax).

Cassis said one of the first initiatives undertaken this year involves the upcoming announcement of JOBS: Phase II. JOBS – Job Opportunities for Business Success – is an action plan to spur job growth and economic investment. JOBS II picks up where JOBS left off at the end of last year.

“While the rest of the nation enjoys economic relief, Michigan's economy still lags behind,” Cassis said. “We need to position Michigan as quickly as possible to take advantage of the national economic recovery.”

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